

CLAIMS

1. A shutter unit for a disc cartridge comprising:

a shutter unit for opening/ closing an aperture of a disc cartridge, having a disc accommodated in the inside thereof, said aperture serving for exposing a portion of a recording area of said disc to outside;

a lock unit rotationally mounted to said shutter unit and adapted for engaging with an engagement part provided to said disc cartridge; and

biasing means for biasing said shutter unit in a direction of engaging said lock unit with said engagement part.

2. A disc cartridge comprising:

a disc;

a main cartridge body unit having said disc rotatably housed therein and including an aperture for exposing a part of said disc across the inner and outer rims of the disc;

a shutter unit mounted movably to said main cartridge body unit for opening or closing said aperture;

a lock unit for locking said shutter unit in a position of closing said aperture;

an engagement part provided to said main cartridge body unit for engagement by said lock member; and

a biasing member for biasing said lock unit in a direction of engaging with said engagement part.

3. The disc cartridge according to claim 2 wherein said lock unit is rotated by a shutter unit movement controlling means so as to be disengaged from said engagement part, said shutter unit movement controlling means being mounted to a recording and/or reproducing apparatus for controlling the movement of said shutter unit relative to said main cartridge body unit.

4. The disc cartridge according to claim 2 wherein an inserting end of said main cartridge body unit into said recording and/or reproducing apparatus is a substantially semicircular arcuate section, centered about the center of said disc, accommodated in said main cartridge body unit, said aperture being formed for opening to a lateral side of said main cartridge body unit other than the lateral side formed as said arcuate section.

5. The disc cartridge according to claim 4 wherein said shutter unit is moved along the lateral side of said main cartridge body unit other than the lateral side formed as said arcuate section for opening/ closing said recording and/or reproducing aperture.

6. A recording and/or reproducing apparatus comprising:

a cartridge holder into which is inserted a disc cartridge including a disc, a main cartridge body unit having said disc rotatably housed therein and including an aperture for exposing a part of said disc across the inner and outer rims of the disc, a shutter unit mounted movably to said main cartridge body unit for opening or closing said aperture, a lock unit for locking said shutter unit in a position of closing said aperture, an engagement part provided to said main cartridge body unit for

engagement by said lock member, and a biasing member for biasing said lock unit in a direction of engaging with said engagement part;

a shutter unit movement controlling part provided to one side of said cartridge holder; and

a recording and/or reproducing unit for recording and/or reproducing the information for said disc cartridge introduced into said cartridge holder;

said lock unit being rotated by said shutter unit movement controlling part when said disc cartridge is introduced into said cartridge holder to release the engagement by said engagement part.